

## Noun Suffixes

## STUDENT OBJECTIVES

- Identify noun suffixes
- Use noun suffixes to determine word meanings

## RESOURCES AND PREPARATION

You will need photocopies for students of:

- **Student Lesson Summary**, pp. 43–44
- **Practice Worksheets**, Levels A and B, pp. 45–46
- **Reteaching Worksheet**, p. 47

## Teach

1. **Introducing Noun Suffixes:** Write the term “sweet onion” on the board and ask students what part of speech the word *sweet* represents. (*adjective*) Then write the word *sweetness* on the board and ask what part of speech it represents. (*noun*)

- Tell students that **noun suffixes**, such as *-ness* or *-ation*, may be added to a base word to form a noun. Explain that a noun suffix changes both the meaning of the base word and its part of speech.
- Ask students to call out other words that end in *-ness*. (*goodness, fitness, darkness*) Point out that all are nouns. Explain that understanding how these words are formed can help students to understand their meanings.

2. **Teaching Noun Suffixes:** Distribute the **Lesson Summary** and review the **Academic Vocabulary**. Use the **Here's How** steps to help students identify noun suffixes. Emphasize that the addition of any of these suffixes will form a new word that is a noun.

- **Words formed with suffixes -or, -er, and -ist.** Review the examples of words with these suffixes. Discuss how these suffixes form nouns that refer to someone who does or practices something. Write the word *collector* on the board. Ask: What is the base word? (*collect*) How can you tell? (*The word can stand on its own.*) What is the suffix? (*-or*) How can you tell? (*The letters are at the end of the word, following the base word.*)
- **Words formed with suffixes -ness, -ence or -ance, -ation, -hood, -cy, and -ce.** Review the examples of words with these suffixes. Discuss how these suffixes form nouns that refer to a condition, quality, or state of being. Write the word *existence* on the board. Ask: What is the base word? (*exist*) How can you tell? (*The word can stand on its own.*) What is the suffix? (*-ence*) How can you tell? (*The letters are at the end of the word, following the base word.*)
- **Use suffixes to determine meaning.** Discuss how understanding noun suffixes can help you guess the meaning of unfamiliar words. Ask: What words besides *collector* end with the suffix *-or*? (*Sample: narrator, actor*) Write them on the board and point out that each of these words names someone who does something. Ask: Based on this, what do you think *collector* means? (*someone who collects something*) Ask: What words besides *existence* end with the suffix *-ence* or *-ance*? (*Sample: dependence, importance*) Write them on the board and point out that each of these words names a quality or state of being. Ask: Based on this, what do you think *existence* means? (*the state of existing*)

## NOUN SUFFIXES, CONTINUED

- 3. Guided Practice:** Use the **Lesson Summary** to guide students through the steps of using noun suffixes to determine meaning. Draw the following chart on the board and then ask the question that follow.

<b>word</b>	tourist
<b>similar words</b>	
<b>suffix meaning</b>	
<b>word definition</b>	
<b>dictionary definition</b>	

- What is the base word? (*tour*) What is the suffix? (*-ist*)
- What other words do you know that end with this suffix? (*Sample: artist, typist, minimalist*) What do these words mean? (*Sample: An artist is someone who makes art, a typist is someone who types; however, a minimalist is not someone who does the minimum but rather is someone who believes in minimalism—a philosophy of “less is more.”*) Based on this analysis, what meanings can *-ist* have? (*one who does or is skilled at something; one who believes in or follows a philosophy or school of thought.*)
- Based on this analysis, what do you think a *tourist* is? (*someone who tours or travels*)
- How does the dictionary definition compare to your guess? (*They should be very similar.*)

**QUICK CHECK.** Write the following words on the board. Have students identify the noun suffix for each, and then guess at its meaning.

biologist    greatness    accuracy

(*biologist—noun suffix -ist, means one who studies biology; greatness—noun suffix -ness, means the state of being great; accuracy—noun suffix -cy, means the state of being accurate*)

## Practice and Apply

Activities involving noun suffixes appear on pp. 45–46.

- Assign **Practice Worksheet A** to students who need more structured activities.
- Assign **Practice Worksheet B** to grade-level and above-level students.

### Answer Key: Practice Worksheet A

1. *accuracy*
2. *illustration*
3. *resistance*
4. *widowhood*
5. *frequency*

## NOUN SUFFIXES, CONTINUED

6. *correspondence*
7. *fatherhood*
8. *starkness*
9. *absence*
10. *narration*

### Sample Answers: Practice Worksheet B

Word	Suffix	Suffix meaning	Word meaning
1. <i>acceptance</i>	<i>-ance</i>	<i>state of being</i>	<i>state of being accepted</i>
2. <i>shrewdness</i>	<i>-ness</i>	<i>state of being</i>	<i>cleverness</i>
3. <i>indignation</i>	<i>-ation</i>	<i>state of being</i>	<i>state of being indignant; insulted</i>
4. <i>likelihood</i>	<i>-hood</i>	<i>state of being</i>	<i>possibility</i>
5. <i>motorist</i>	<i>-ist</i>	<i>someone who does</i>	<i>someone who motors or drives</i>
6. <i>dependence</i>	<i>-ence</i>	<i>state of being</i>	<i>reliance</i>
7. <i>idiocy</i>	<i>-cy</i>	<i>state of being</i>	<i>stupidity</i>
8. <i>juror</i>	<i>-or</i>	<i>someone who does</i>	<i>someone who serves on a jury</i>
9. <i>adulthood</i>	<i>-hood</i>	<i>state of being</i>	<i>maturity</i>
10. <i>baker</i>	<i>-er</i>	<i>someone who does</i>	<i>person who bakes</i>

### Assess and Reteach

Use these guidelines to determine if students need the **Reteaching Worksheet**.

- **Practice Worksheet A:** Students should correctly answer at least eight items.
- **Practice Worksheet B:** Students should correctly identify the noun suffix and its meaning and provide a reasonable word definition for at least eight items.

For students who need reteaching, review the **Student Lesson Summary**. Focus on the definitions in **Academic Vocabulary** and relate them to the items on **Practice Worksheet A**. Then have students complete the **Reteaching Worksheet**, p. 47.

## NOUN SUFFIXES, CONTINUED

**Sample Answers: Reteaching Worksheet**

1. *infancy: the state of being an infant*
2. *imagination: quality of being imaginative or full of ideas*
3. *reverence: state of feeling reverent or full of awe*
4. *importance: state of being important or crucial*
5. *contemplation: state of contemplating or thinking*
6. *speculation: state of speculating or guessing*
7. *excellence: state of being excellent*
8. *conference: state of conferring or talking together*
9. *conspiracy: state of conspiring or plotting together*
10. *childhood: state of being a child*